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disciplinary procedure received a suspension without pay or demotion that has not been resolved shall receive a cost-of-living increase. Other than the Commission, no agency, department, or institution shall set limits or initiate written disciplinary procedures for the purpose of precluding an eligible employee from receiving a cost-of-living adjustment."

(b) Section 19(c) of S.L. 1998-153 reads as rewritten:

"(c) The salary increases provided in this act are to be effective July 1, 1998, do not apply to persons separated from State service due to resignation, dismissal, reduction in force, death, or retirement, whose last workday is prior to July 1, 1998, or to employees involved in final written disciplinary procedures. The employee shall receive the increase on a current basis when the final written disciplinary procedure is resolved. 1998.

Payroll checks issued to employees after July 1, 1998, which represent payment of services provided prior to July 1, 1998, shall not be eligible for salary increases provided for in this act. This subsection shall apply to all employees, subject to or exempt from the State Personnel Act, paid from State funds, including public schools, community colleges, and The University of North Carolina."

(c) This section becomes effective July 1, 1998, and applies to any employee involved in the final written stage of a disciplinary procedure on or after January 1, 1997.

Requested by: Senators Plyler, Perdue, Odom, Rand SALARIES OF THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION SET BY STATUTE

Section 28.18.(a) G.S. 97-78 reads as rewritten:

"§ 97-78. Salaries and expenses; secretary and other clerical administrator, executive secretary, and other staff assistance; annual report.

- (a) The salary of each commissioner shall be the same as that fixed from time to time for district attorneys except that the commissioner designated as chair shall receive one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) additional per annum.
- (b) The Commission may appoint an administrator whose duties shall be prescribed by the Commission, and who shall be subject to the State Personnel System. The Commission may appoint a an executive secretary whose duties shall be prescribed by the Commission, and who shall be subject to the State Personnel System and who, upon entering upon his duties, shall give bond in such sum as may be fixed by the Commission, and who may be removed at the will of the Commission. The Commission may also employ such clerical or other assistance as it may deem necessary, and fix the compensation of all persons so employed, such compensation to its staff, except that the salaries of the administrator and the executive secretary shall be fixed by subsection (b1) of this section. The compensation of Commission staff shall be in keeping with the compensation paid to the persons employed to do similar work in other State departments.
- (b1) The salary of the administrator shall be ninety percent (90%) of the salary of a commissioner. The salary of the executive secretary shall be eighty percent (80%) of the salary of a commissioner. In lieu of merit and